

RUSSIA AND THE WEST IN IRAN

few deputies, including Fahrivar, Professor Mo'azzami, Dr. Zangueneh, Zia ol-Molk Farman, and even such a prominent leader as Dr. Mosaddeq. It possessed two press organs, *Rastakhiz* and *Mihan Parestan*, and claimed to have good relations with the tribes of Luristan. The membership of Mihan was mainly composed of younger, patriotic elements, including a number of students. The leaders asserted that in Teheran alone the party had more than 2,000 members, and that it was growing in the provinces. The IRAN party was created in 1944. Its program included the defense of independence and democracy in Iran, social justice, increase of the standard of living, agrarian reform, promotion of education and hygiene, and development of trade and industry. The organizers of the party were Fahrivar, an engineer, and Dr. Mo'azzami. Both were deputies to the Majlis. The peculiar character and immaturity of Iranian political life is manifest in the fact that both of these men were claimed to be supporters of the Mihan party by the leaders of the latter. Members of the Iran party were recruited mainly from the educated people in Teheran, especially the engineers. The party was hostile to the Tudeh as well as to the American Financial Mission. It owned the paper *Shafaq*. The party was said to be collaborating with the Mihan party and with the newly created group, Vahdat-i-Melli.

The SOCIALIST party emerged in the first quarter of 1944 as a result of the split in the Hamrahan party. Created in 1943, the latter claimed to represent socialist ideology and was dedicated to the struggle against the dictatorial government tendencies in Iran. Two representatives of Hamrahan, Abol Qasim Naraqi and Savan Haj Nasiri, were elected to the Fourteenth Majlis. During the debate on the validity of the mandate of Deputy Seyyid Zia ed-Din, Naraqi and Nasiri cast their votes in favor of confirmation. Their attitude produced a heated controversy in the central committee of the Hamrahan party. Six members of the committee headed by Ali Shahid-zadeh, editor of *Emruz-o-Farda*, demanded their expulsion on the grounds of betrayal. They claimed that Zia ed-Din as a rightist and

foe of socialism did not deserve the favorable vote of the
 two socialist
 deputies. During the plenary meeting of the party,
 however, the majority
 favored the two censured deputies. Consequently, Ali
 Shahid-zadeh and his
 followers resigned from the Hamrahan and founded a new
 "Socialist party."
Emruz-o-Farda now became their organ. Yet the old
 Hamrahan party de-
 clared that it represented the true socialist movement and
 started to issue
 a new paper called *Shiam*. Hamrahan was greatly
 weakened by this split:
 after some time *Shiam* suspended publication, and little
 was heard of the
 party's activities.
 In contrast, the new Socialist party manifested some
 vitality. Proclaiming
 radical slogans, the party stressed the importance of
 economic welfare, which
 could be assured only by limitations on private property
 and by planned
 government economy. The party was said to co-operate
 silently with the

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